

WASHINGTON, D.C. - On September 29, 2007, the National Park Service will waive all entrance fees, including vehicle and commercial tour fees, to National Parks across the country. The fee waiver is to celebrate National Public Lands Day, and to encourage Americans to visit their local national parks. In addition to waiving entrance fees, national parks and other public lands will host special programs and volunteer work parties to commemorate the 14th annual event. Anyone who volunteers at a National Park Service area on National Public Lands Day will receive a free one day pass valid for future use at any site.

For a list of National Parks and historic sites in the area, visit <http://www.nps.gov/> , or for more information, visit the National Public Lands Day official web site at <http://www.publiclandsday.org/>

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"America's national parks are a treasure for all of us to enjoy," said Costa. "I encourage everyone to take advantage of the free entrance next weekend and visit Kings Canyon, Yosemite, or Death Valley"

National Public Lands Day is the only time that entrance fees are waived systematically on public lands throughout the country. Normally, 147 of the country's 391 National Park Service sites charge an entrance fee ranging from \$3 to \$25. United States veterans are admitted to national parks for free each year on Veteran's Day.

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